

THE - QUA - RAE

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE

EDITOR, K3UPC--COPY DEADLINE 15th OF MONTH-AUGUST 1988



MINUTES OF JULY RAE MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 pm by Chester Kanis, KB3P. The roll call of officers and board members found all members present except KA3JTD.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Dick Conley, W3NFM, who became a silent key.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved as recorded in the QUA-RAE. The Treasurers report was given by Bob, N3FAW, and approved as read. Bob then made a motion, which was seconded by Joe, K3IVG, that the RAE purchase a good quality brass key, have it mounted on a wooden base, engraved on memory of Dick Conley, and made available for loan by the membership. The motion passed by oral vote. Bob next suggested the membership consider raising the yearly dues enough to offset the annual operating expenses of the club rather than always spending all the interest earned on the grant money for operating expenses, thus allowing this interest to be banked in a "rainy-day" fund. Bob estimated the required increase to be around three to six dollars per year. A discussion followed.

Board of Directors Report was given by Joe, K3IVG. There was not a quorum at the meeting held on June 26 due to Field Day. Various things were discussed, but no action was possible.

Field Day - Joe, KC3LV, reported that approximately twelve operators showed up at the W3GV site, making roughly 836 CW, 551 SSB and 4 packet contacts worth about 4850 points. Special thanks to KJ3L and KB3A. Property chairman to store generators. Joe, K3IVG, reported that his Field Day site was in the shade and therefore cool and that a good time was had by all. Jack, K3TJM, reported he had six operators, operated Class 3A and his group had fun also.

Grant Committee - Bob N3FAW, worked with Tom Bochler (of the Red Cross), and Tony, WB3KGT, on a rough draft of a presentation of various ideas in their search for funds. Bob made his presentation to The First National Bank of PA and a donation is coming. Thanks to our Grant Committee and 'The first.'

Membership - Jim, KJ3L, stated that there are presently 192 paid members.

Skywarn/Public Service - Joe, K3IVG, listed coming events: 7/09/88, St. V. Triathlon at Elk Vally at 4 pm; 7/17/88, one-half marathon at Peninsula at 7:30 am; 7/23/88, St V. Quad bike race at Albion at 2 pm (big event).

Picnic '88 - Chester, KB3P, has the date, 7/23/88, but says he needs volunteers.

Club Directory - Jack, K3TJM, reported that the printer messed up a couple of pages and that the price has increased dramatically. Joe, K3IVG, is to work with Jack on perhaps a less expensive directory for this year. Education - Dick, KA3KFQ, will help a new education chairman get started and is willing to assist any way he can. RAE VE Team - Norma, W3CG, reported that W3CG, KY3D, KA3GXP, NI3Q, NO3E and W8HVK conducted the July exams and the next exam is August 6, 1988, at Villa Maria at 8 am. Norma also reported that Cliff, VE3ANN, is recuperating from an attack he suffered last week.

OLD BUSINESS; K3IVG has a list of equipment for sale from the shack of Dick, W3NFM. Call Joe at 866-5121 for details any time after 7:00 pm. N3GCN read some information he received on ARRL Special Service Clubs. He is enthusiastic and thinks the RAE should qualify easily. He will bring details to the next Board of Directors meeting. KB3A reports that the club jackets are in and moved that he be reimbursed approximately \$96.00, to be replaced after all jackets are delivered. Seconded by K3IVG. Passed by oral vote. K3IVG needs ground crew volunteers for the 22/82 antenna raising Sunday 7/10/88 at 12:30 pm. The antennas were rebuilt and resealed and are ready to fly again. (Ed. note: The antenna party was rescheduled.)

(July minutes continued from page 1)

NEW BUSINESS: Chester, KB3P, in his rebuttal to a letter sent to him by a concerned club member, discussed his views and gave suggestions on how to make the club a better one. Bart, W3SN, to look into the existence of a law requiring non-profit organizations to notify members in advance of "important meetings." He will report next month.

N3GCN asked what happened to the "Worked All Erie" award - to discuss with KB3A. N3FAW moved that the RAE spend \$55.00 for new letterheads; second by KC3LV and passed. N3FAW then moved the RAE purchase two 2M rigs for the Christmas party raffle; second by K3IVG and passed. N3FAW then moved the RAE donate \$50.00 again this year to WILN; second by K3IVG and passed. Bob also presented a T-shirt design he came up with. Buy a shirt and support your club at the same time. Cost to be about \$8.50 each,

Jim, KZ3C, moved that the club sell the S Spectrum repeater by sealed bid. The minimum bid will be \$500.00, and it is sole 'as is.' Bids to be opened at the August meeting - passed. N3GCN reminds us of the Special Event Station now scheduled for Labor Day weekend. The meeting adjourned at 9:38 pm. Submitted by Kevin McKenna, WB3KKT, Acting Secretary.

SILENT KEY

The Amateur fraternity has lost a real friend upon the untimely death of Dick Conley, W3NFM, in June. Dick was a member of the Board of Directors of the RAE, the caretaker of the RAE club equipment, was the Chairman of the Packet Radio Group, a separate entity from the RAE. This very active Ham will be sadly missed by all those who had come in contact with him over the years.

In order to settle his estate, his radio gear is being offered for purchase. For a complete listing of all this first rate gear, which is all in "mint" condition, contact Joe Ciano, K3IVG (868-5121, after 7:00 pm), who is handling the liquidation. The list includes, but is not limited to a Kenwood TS-440 w/Pwr. Sup., Kenwood TM-2570 70 W two meter mobile, Kenwood two meter HT, AEA PK-232 TNC, 40 foot high telescoping tower w/rotor and Mini-Quad beam. Most of this high quality gear was only recently purchased, and its condition is very close to brand new.

Wisdom is the reward you get for a lifetime of listening when you'd have preferred to talk!

RETIRING TO FLORIDA

ATR rect pwr sup/bat chgr 0-20A 0-15Vdc. \$ 75, Precision EV-20, VTVM \$ 50, EMC Model 212 Transistor Checker \$ 8, Realistic sig. gen. TK-110, \$ 15, Wahl cordless Solder gun w/charger FREE with any purchase, Two CB Xcvrs, SQ-40 Master Works decoder, CB gutter mt ant \$ 5, Pwr Sup 1000Vdc-350Vcd, 12Vac \$ 35, HW-101SSB XcvrPS-23 Pwr Sup. Filter 18 AVT/WB-A Vfrt Ant, Tubes Keyer w/manuals \$ 295, six old volumes Riders TV-Radio Schematics misc radios tape recorders cassettes & Turntables, also power tools & other items. - Ange Melito, KA3DWZ, 3021 Garland Ave. 838-7554

YAESU 101-ZD, 180W PEP, SSB XCVR, for 160M through 10M. Call Sid Stacy, W3MMJ at 825-2216, after 5:00 pm.

REPEATER USAGE FOR JUNE

Key-ups; 28,785

Minutes transmit time: 9,387

Auto-patches made: 146

Mailbox Accesses: 5

Command Entries: 1,722

Submitted, Ken Teleis, KZ3E

LAUGHS

Joe, "What would you like to drink?"

Jill, "Gingerale."

Joe, "Pale?"

Jill, "No, a glassful will be sufficient."

Coach, "Joe, you can play End, Guard and Tackle during the game."

Joe, "How can I play all three positions at once?"

Coach, "You sit on the End of the bench, Guard the water bucket, and Tackle anyone who gets near it!"

After the man received his haircut he informed the Barber that he was unable to pay for it. "We don't do work on credit here," the Barber said, "You will have to sign an IOU and put it on the wall with the others who still owe." "But I object to having an IOU with my name on it hanging on the wall. I don't want anyone to see my name." "Don't worry, no one will see your name, because your coat will be hanging over it." (From The Spark Gap Times)

A preacher was telling his flock about a biblical character who had a thousand wives and concubines, and fed them all ambrosia.

"Never mind what he fed THEM," piped up a man in the congregation. "What did HE eat?"

2.

Woman to her sleepy husband at the breakfast table: "Sure your waffle was tough and dry, You ate the potholder"



THINK

Recently, I placed an ad in the QUA-RAE indicating that I had some equipment for sale. That is quite normal. But then some individuals understood that to mean that I was selling the equipment donated to the Cathedral Prep Amateur Radio Association (CPARA) and keeping the funds for myself. Well, gentlemen, nothing could be farther from the truth. I am not in the "con" business. Selling donated equipment (and equipment donated to another organization!) is a crime. It's called theft. I should add that I refer to equipment sold for personal gain. Why would I be so brazen as to advertise criminal activity in a newsletter read by hundreds of people? If people would THINK, many problems would be solved.

You may ask, "Well, why didn't he just say that CPARA was selling some surplus equipment and avoid this whole fuss?" Good question. I am not one to go groveling with my hand out, saying, "Oh, PLEASE... give us some money!" I did that with equipment, and it didn't work too well. In fact, I'm surprised that I got the equipment I did. Some people seem to carry the opinion that no one under the age of fifty should be a licensed amateur radio operator. And that opinion carries over into the general treatment of CPARA from the beginning.

I should state that not all Erie amateurs have been this way. In fact, most have been very helpful. But it's the few "bad apples" that always spoil the barrel.

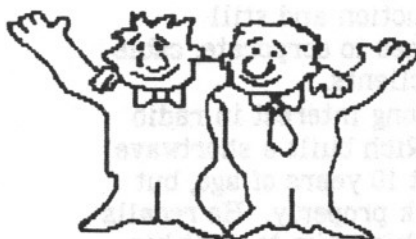
With such treatment of youthful amateurs, is it any wonder that there are so few? For an enlightening discussion of this topic, I suggest the reader investigate some of the "Uncle" Wayne Green's (W2NSD/1's) editorials in 73 Amateur Radio.

I seem to have digressed from the topic at hand, which is-- and I regret that I cannot have this printed in twenty-foot high letters-- that I AM NOT IN THE PROFITEERING BUSINESS!! If you saw the expenses CPARA will incur next year (\$40.00 for QSL cards for the special-event station, and about \$700.00 for the planned 200 MHz repeater, to name a few), you might start considering selling some spare gear. The sad thing is that most CPARA expenses to date have come out of my own pocket and will probably never be repaid.

Finally, one more thing. I'm tired of things like this being discussed over the air. If you have a problem with the way I

do things, you are more than welcome to call me at home (899-8261, for those of you without a directory) and discuss the things about me that you don't like there, instead of doing it on the air and contributing to the petty politics that seem to run rife in our club.

I've probably made quite a few enemies now, but I'm secure in the fact that I've voiced my opinion. Thank you for your time in reading this. Submitted by Mike Sensor, N3GCN.



THOUGHTS ON THE USE OF "WE"

Ever since I got my ticket and spent time on the air, I have wondered about the origin of, and the reason for the prolific use of the word "We" on the air.

For some time I thought the user was travelling in a vehicle with his XYL or another person. More recently I have decided that we amateurs must be plural individuals. Or else, "me and my radio" constitutes a group of two, which thereby warrants the first person plural pronoun.

Marian Anderson, the celebrated opera star was a "We". Her first person was always "We", but maybe her status was too great for only one person. Also, Charles Lindberg and his airplane were "We".

For my part, I really don't care whether a Ham is singular, twins or even triplets, go ahead and say "We". But, I think it's a curiosity of our hobby to describe ourselves individually as we.

If, pursuing N3GDS Jerry's essay, we can expand the dictionary to include "destinated", maybe "We" will become a synonym for "I". What say you, Mr. Webster? Just to prove that this is not meant to disparage any Hams, WE wish you 73's! Submitted by Bob Schwimmer, N3FAW. (Ed. note: He must have Pleurisy, or a mouse in his pocket!)

A 220 Mhz REPEATER FOR ERIE?

If The Cathedral Preparatory School Amateur Radio Association (CPARA) can garner enough funds, there will soon be a 220 Mhz repeater on the area. In fact, it will be the first and only 220 Mhz repeater in the Erie area! Several items remain to be done. Among these are the assignment of a frequency pair, the purchase of a controller, a transmit board and a receive board, etc. CPARA is willing to accept any help it can get in order to acquire these needed components! Submitted by Mike Sensor, N3GCN

MOVING-UP

Rich Gensheimer, N3GCP, was born and reared in Erie, attended Cathedral Prep and earned a degree in Marketing from Mercyhurst College. He and xyl Marcia have 2 daughters, Emily 7 and Beth, 3.

Working in the advertising and corporate communications field for 13 years, for the past 7 years, Rich has owned his own firm, Parrot Productions. The firm provides video production, audio-visual production and still photography services to corporate, cable TV and editorial clients.

Having a life long interest in radio communications, Rich built a shortwave radio from a kit at 10 years of age, but never got it to work properly. He recalls his grandfather taking him to visit his friend Walt Jordan, W3SLC, at 28th and Holland, and Walt included him in a QSO with a west coast operator, which impressed him no end.

Rich attended the Navy's communications technician "A" school in Pensacola, Fla. in 1972, earning his Novice call, WN3TUZ with the help of the guys at the base A. Radio Club, WA4ECY. While there, an operator named George Dean used to run Sunday evening phone patches to Erie with Chuch Bliley, K3NAU. Once back in Erie and back to college, Rich never did manage to get a station on the air.

He always maintained his interest in radio and has never been without a shortwave receiver of one sort or another. This spring he decided to invest the time, earn a ticket and put a station on the air. On March 5, he passed Novice and Technician in Erie, and the following day at the Conneaut Hamfest, passed 3B, General Theory. Again in Erie on April 2, he passed 1B, the General Code and 4A, Advanced. Going from SWL to Advanced in less than a month is surely an inspiration to others. He hopes to find time to go for A. Extra when the snow flies again.

Rich bought an ICOM 745 at the Indiana Hamfest and rigged up an indoor four element dipole for 10-15-20-40 meters. His first contact was a ham in Orange Co., Cal. and second, a mobile op on 25 states, 20 countries in Europe, Central and South America, Africa, and a number of Special Event Stations. Eventually, plans call for a 2 meter rig for mobile use when travelling on TV and Photo assignments.

Rich is currently homebrewing an IC keyer from QST and is looking for an antenna tuner. He is also looking for a

preamp circuit which will allow him to use a Sennheiser 421 broadcast microphone with his IC745.

Rich says he is having lots of fun with A. Radio despite the limited time he is able to devote to it. He has had the opportunity to meet a fair number of hams in his travels and is always impressed with their hospitality and looks forward to being involved with this hoppy for many years.

Rich, N3GCP, credits the volunteer examiners for making it easy for those interested in obtaining a license and feels the present system is a big improvement over the old FCC Exam system. -Norma Vanderhoff, W3CG

A SPECIAL EVENT STATION

The Cathedral Preparatory Amateur Radio Association (CPARA) will sponsor a special event station, which will operate from the Perry Street station of the Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad. The station, using the call sign N3GCN, will operate from 1400Z to 2130Z on both September 3 and 4, 1988. The station commemorates the third consecutive year of operation of the highly popular tourist railroad. Look for N3GCN on the lower 25Khz of the Novice CW subbands, as well as on the lower 25 Khz of the General SSB subbands on 80, 40, 20 and 15 Meters. It is planned to operate on SSB on the Novice frequency of 28.350 Mhz. There will be some two meter FM operation on 147.21 Mhz (+600), and 145.23 Mhz (-600), from the moving train.

For a special QSL card, send a #10 SASE to:

N3GCN/OC&T RR
RD #1, BOX 143-G
TITUSVILLE, PA 16543

Note! The cost of QSL cards is quite high and the CPARA can hardly afford the expense, so donations will be cheerfully accepted in order to help defray the cost. A receipt will be issued to any contributors. Thank you for your understanding.

Note! Operators are needed. If you are available to operate, call N3GCN at 899-8261, anytime.

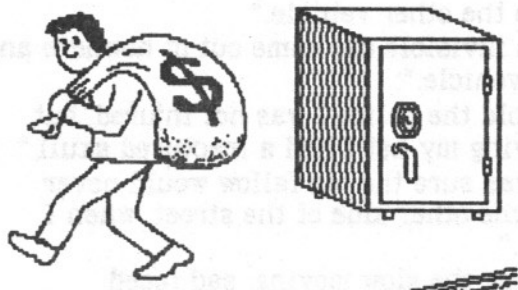
SCHEDULED SPECIAL SERVICE EVENTS

July 23, St. Vincent Quad Bike Race, Albion, PA
August 6&7 Erie Hunt and Saddle club, Horse Trials, near Franklin Center.

August 10 St. Vincent 3 mile walk at Edinboro University.

September 10 St. Vincent 5 mile walk in Fairview, PA.

October 16 St. Vincent 3 mile walk at Fairview High School. -Furnished by Joe Cuano, K3IVG



OL' MONEY BAG'S COLUMN

Not long ago in this eminent publication I wrote that our dues should be enough to carry the club through its normal yearly expenses. We fall short of that by about \$1,000, which is the amount of the dividend from the Treasury bonds. We are currently using the Bliley grant money as a personal charity to save each of us from paying our proper dues to support our club!

At the June meeting I was asked to determine how much of a dues increase would be required to compensate for that \$1,000. At the July meeting I advised that with 160 regular annual dues paying members we would need \$6 yearly increase. This amount would enable us to save about \$960 per year. This money could be available for unforeseen problems or expenses, or the membership could vote to use it for any purpose. However, with our present dues at only \$9 I believe the increase to \$15 could be too great a strain for many members. I see newsletters from many other clubs and most of them are paying dues of \$15 or more!

I do not wish to chase anyone away, therefore at the September meeting I intend to place a motion to increase our yearly dues by \$3 beginning with 1989. Contrary to some of the comments I have overheard, I have no ulterior motive to spend the money on the repeaters.

Fact is, we need more members. There are many Hams in the Erie Area who are not members; you may have a friend who is not a member. Why not urge him/her to attend meetings and join? Everyone should be considered to be a member of the membership committee. If each of us recruited a member we would double our membership, and we would then find that our present dues would be more adequate!

I believe the RAE is a worthwhile Club, recognized by many in our community as such, and much appreciated by the groups for whom we provide public service.

Any organization without enough money is weak. Can we afford not to be strong?
Submitted by Bob Schwimmer, N3FAW.

VE REPORT

The July team present included Richard Blasco, KY3D; Bert Van Houten, W3TPW; Lee Robinson, WA3HJC; Henry Schultz, KA3GXP; Mike Przepierski, NO3E; and Norma Vanderhoff, W3CG.

Those who up-graded in July are as follows:
Amateur Extra None

Advanced None

General Mike Orelski, KA3SKC, of Erie, PA
Technician Victor Washy, KB3BDK, of Gowanda, NY; Albert Heil, KA3SKX, of Guy's Mills, PA and Kathleen Duda, No Call, of Erie, PA

We only report those who have completed a full license requirement. No recognition is given in the QUA-RAE for those increments leading toward a specific license.

The next test session will be held on August 6, 1988, in room 107, in A'Hearn Hall, at Villa Maria College, starting promptly at 8:00 am. Norma Vanderhoff, W3CG.

HEARTFELT THANKS

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks for the many visits and gifts of flowers received at the time of our Father's death. All were greatly appreciated. It is comforting to know that he was so highly thought of by so many who expressed their appreciation in these ways. From the children of Frank Grace, W3NR

SINCERE THANK YOU

I wish to extend my warmest appreciation to the many friends in the Amateur fraternity who have expressed their kind words of sympathy upon the death of my XYL of nearly forty-six years. She had been ill for nearly twelve years, and had spent the last two and one half years in a nursing home, with no hope for recovery. Thank you all for caring. -John, K3UPC

THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB

I received word from Lloyd, KB3UK, about an organization within the Ham Radio fraternity, composed of Hams who have been continuously licensed for forty or more years. The organization is called The Old Old Timers Club, and boasts of at least two members from the Erie area, namely Ken, W3QN, and Lloyd, KB3UK.

This organization is world wide in scope and is open to any Amateur filling the requirements. For details either contact Lloyd Stabler, KB3UK, Ken Lloyd, W3QN, or write to: A.J. Gironda, The Old Old Timers Club, 1417 Stonybrook Ave., Mamaronek, NY 10543.

SUMMER PICNIC IS NOW ON HOLD!

Due to no one taking the job as chairman, the Summer picnic may have to be cancelled. It is a sad thing, but without a leader, it just wouldn't be a success. Too bad!, but Chester had no choice!



ACTUAL ACCIDENT SUMMARIES

Many of us have experienced the confusion that exists during a traffic accident. When we must summarize accurately for a traffic report or an insurance form, we often say things that do not make much sense.

The following descriptions of accidents were taken directly from actual accident forms, and later published in The Toronto Sun.

1. "Coming home, I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have."
2. "The other car collided with me, without giving any warning of it's intention."
3. "I thought my window was down, but I found it was up when I put my hand through it."
4. "I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way."
5. "A truck backed through my windshield and into my wife's face."
7. "The guy was all over the road, I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him."
6. "A pedestrian hit me and went under my car."
8. "I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my Mother-in-law and headed over the embankment."
9. "In my attempt to kill a fly, I hit a telephone pole."
10. "I had been shopping for plants all day, and was on my way home. As I reached an intersection, a hedge sprang up, obscuring my vision. I did not see the other car."
11. "Had been driving my car for forty years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident."
12. "I was on my way to the Doctor's with rear end trouble when my universal joint gave way, causing me to have an accident."
13. "As I approached the intersection, a stop sign suddenly appeared in a place where no stop sign had ever appeared before. I was unable to stop in time to avoid an accident."
14. To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front, I struck a pedestrian."
15. "My car was legally parked as it



backed into the other vehicle."

16. "An invisible car came out of nowhere and struck my vehicle."

17. "I told the police I was not injured, but upon removing my hat I had a fractured skull."

18. "I was sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the street, when I struck him."

19. "I saw the slow moving, sad faced gentleman as he bounced off the hood of my car."

20. "The indirect cause of this accident, was a little guy in a small car, with a big mouth!"

21. "I was thrown from my car as it left the road. I was later found in a ditch, by some stray cows."

22. "The telephone pole was approaching fast. I attempted to swerve out of it's way when I saw it strike the front of my car."

BULLETIN

PEP. MAINE INTRODUCES LEGISLATION

State Rep. Connie Maine has introduced legislation which would provide a special vehicle registration plate for Amateur Radio Operators.

Under the legislation (House Bill 2543) the state Department of Transportation (PennDOT) would issue a special plate to Amateur Radio Operators who apply for one. Plates bearing the words "Amateur Radio Operator" and the operator's call sign would be used as the registration number, she said.

The bill is now being considered by The House Rules Committee.

Maine said the legislation is the result of a letter she received from Robert C. Huson of Meadville, the Western Pennsylvania state

government liason for The American Radio Relay League, asking for legislative action to provide the special plates.

"Amateur Radio Operators play an important role in our communications system, particularly during emergencies such as the tornados that Northwestern Pennsylvania has experienced. The very least we can do to help them perform their duties and to show our appreciation is to give them the chance to obtain the special plates. I appreciate Mr. Huson's efforts in pursuing this matter," Maine concluded.

Reprinted by permission. (Ed. note: Now the ball is in our court. Let your state Senator and state Representative hear from you! Lobby for House Bill 2543, and it will not die in committee. If these elected officials hear from us individually, it will keep moving, otherwise it may die from lack of voter interest! Please take the time NOW to write!)

NOTICE



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\$5.00 JUST ARRIVED!!
1988-89 ARRL
POCKET REPEATER DIR.

JOIN THE RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE! 1988

Please check your mailing label below. If an N appears in the fourth row, you are not a current member, and this copy is being furnished through the generosity of the RAE. Our club needs every member in order to survive, and to be financially able to publish 'THE QUA-RAE' and also support the many other worthwhile club functions. The dues are still only a very small \$ 9.00 per year to become a full , or \$ 8.00 per year to become an associate member. Send your dues to: THE RAE, PO Box 844, Erie, PA, 16512

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Secretary	Barb Crotty	KA3JTD
Treasurer	Bob Schwimmer	N3FAW

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Dick Conley	W3NFM	2 Yrs.
Jim Ferguson	KZ3C	2 Yrs.
Jack Johnston	K3TJM	1 Yr.
Kevin McKenna	WB3KKT	3 Yrs.
Joe Seppala	KC3LV	1 Yr.
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